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# Mobile Communication Network Architecture (MCNA) Overview for ICNS 2005

**Co-Funded by FAA and NASA GRC under the Boeing Global Communication,  
Navigation and Surveillance System (GCNSS) Follow-on Contract**

**Boeing team includes: Boeing, Avaliant, Honeywell & ITT**

David C. Morse, Avaliant  
James M. Budinger, NASA GRC





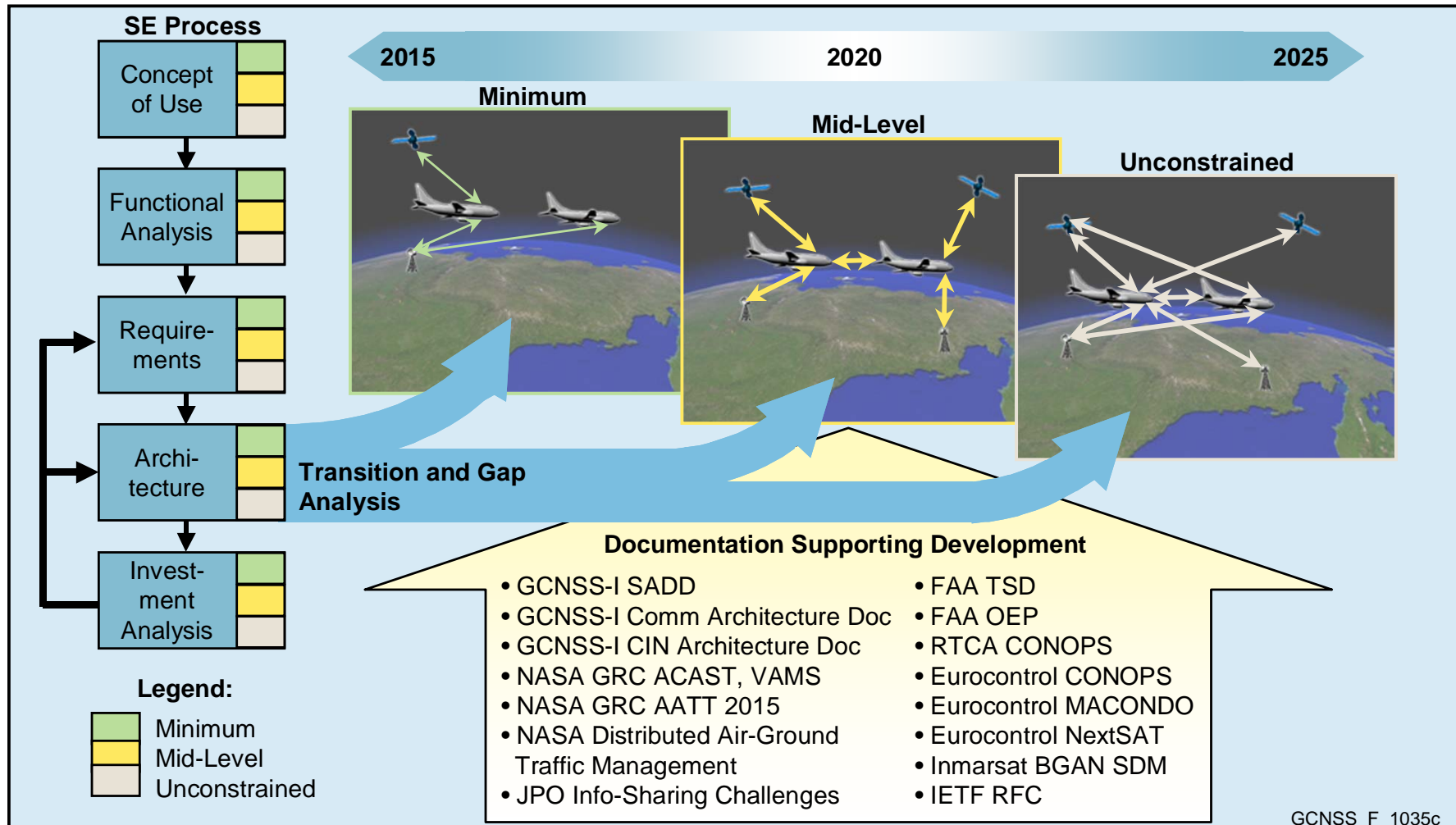
- **Mobile Communication Network Architecture (MCNA) represents the aggregate of all digital voice and data communications for CNS/ATM**
- **Specifically focused on communication support for Network Centric Operations**
- **System of System Engineering (SoSE) approach**
- **Results will provide a technology development roadmap to help guide future NASA GRC R&D efforts**
- **Contract focused on covering breadth vs. depth during this phase**

# MCNA SoSE Approach



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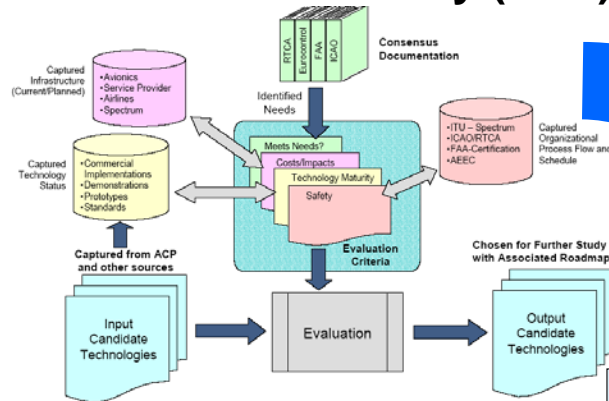
# MCNA Relationship with Past, Present & Future NASA Research Activities



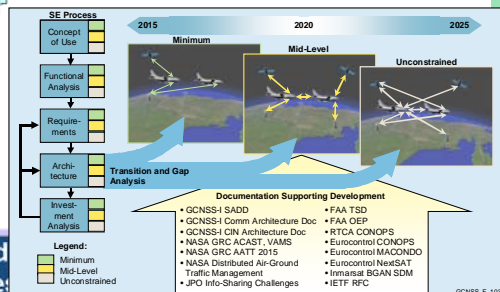
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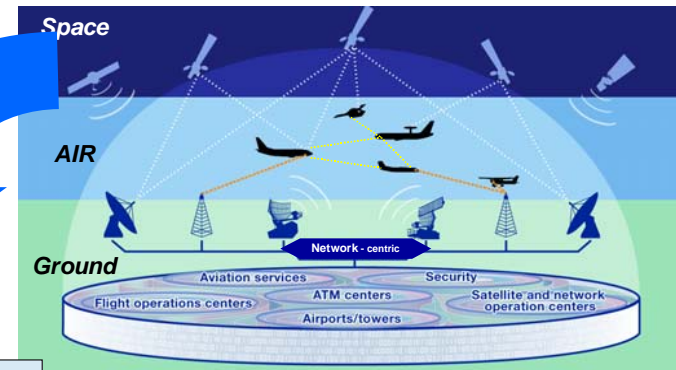
## Future Comm. Study (FCS)



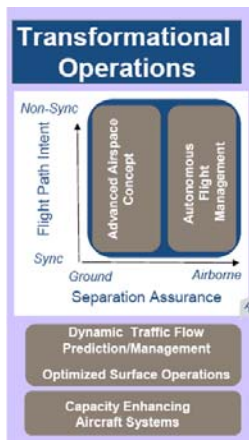
## MCNA



## GCNSS I



## TNAS 2015-2025



## Advanced Capabilities

**Quality of Information**  
• Weather  
• Precision CNS

**Information Sharing**  
• Airspace mobility communication networks  
• SWIM selected information technologies  
• Management  
• Dissemination  
• Control

## UAV Operations

## University/Base Research

## ACAST 2007-2015





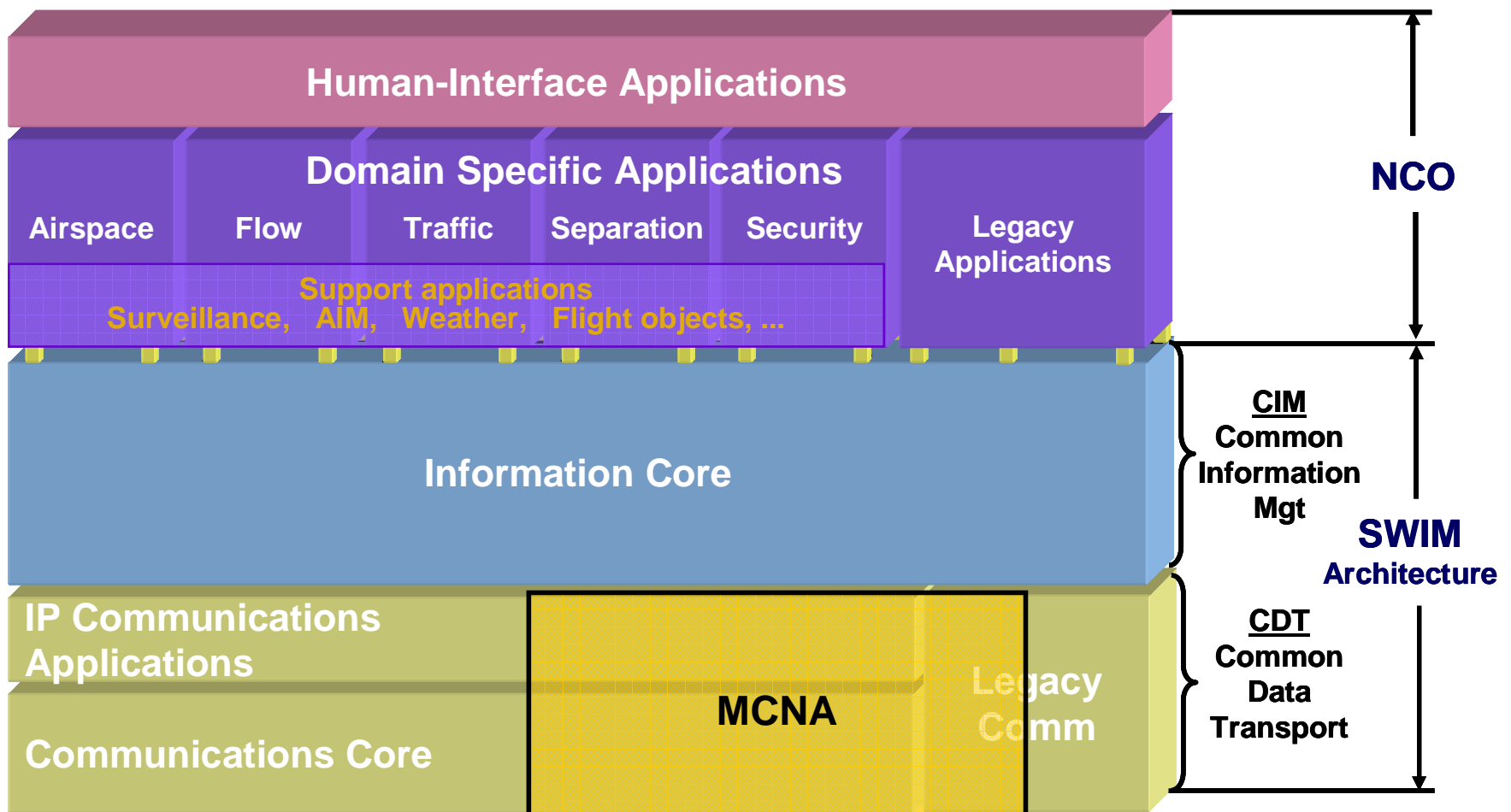
- **MCNA will eventually become an extension of the Common Data Transport (CDT)**
  - Extends SWIM to the aircraft
- **Initial focus on datalink transition**
  - Timelines for avionics upgrades
  - Coordination with ground infrastructure and procedures
- **Early implementations of SWIM mobility may employ gateways/brokers on the aircraft and the ground**
  - Store and distribute static SWIM information
  - Provide common information and communication interface to new applications on the aircraft
- **As MCNA capabilities expand, certain aspects of SWIM may be extended directly to the aircraft**
  - Real time collection and distribution of dynamic information

# MCNA Relationship with CDT, CIM and SWIM



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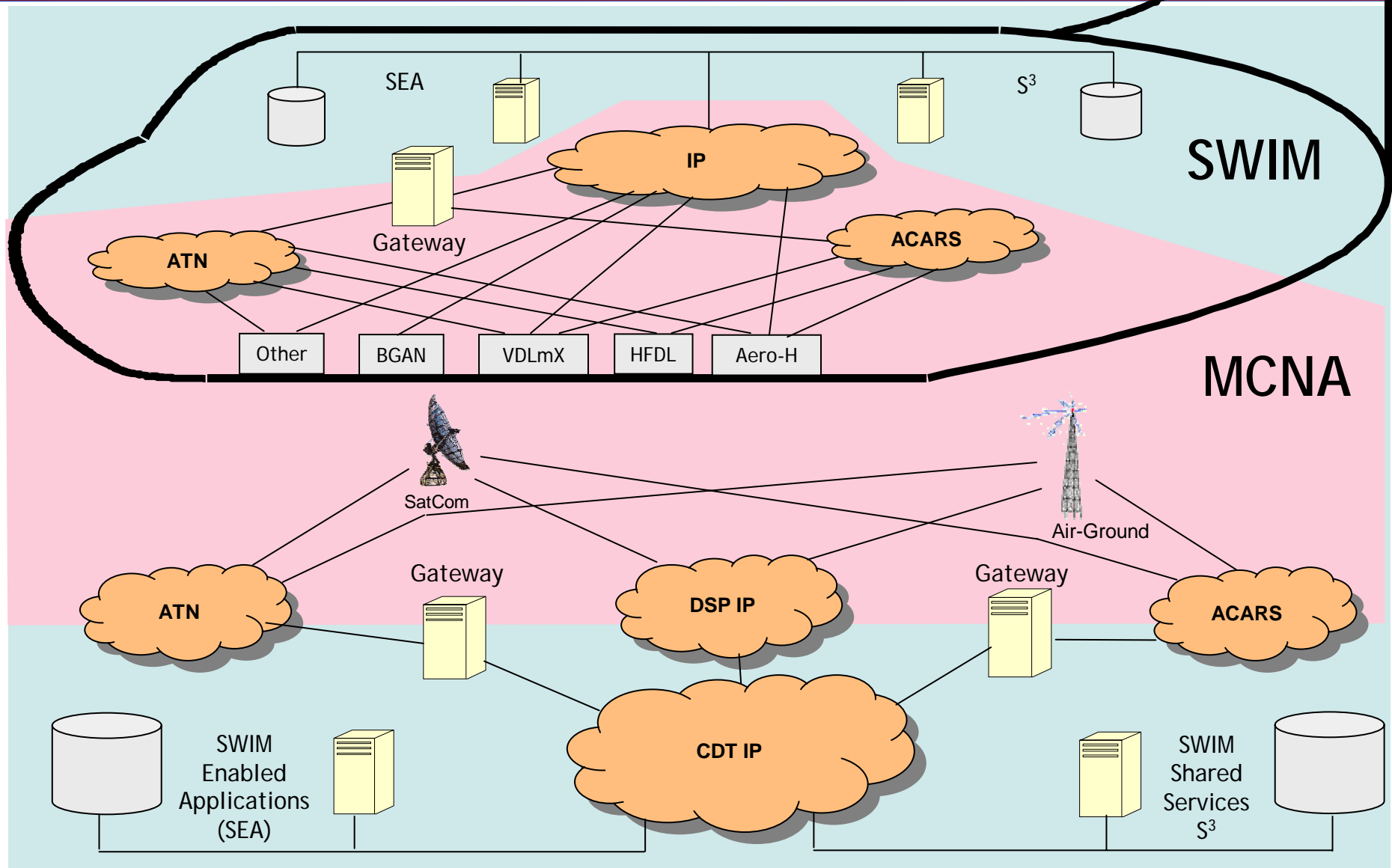


# MCNA Context



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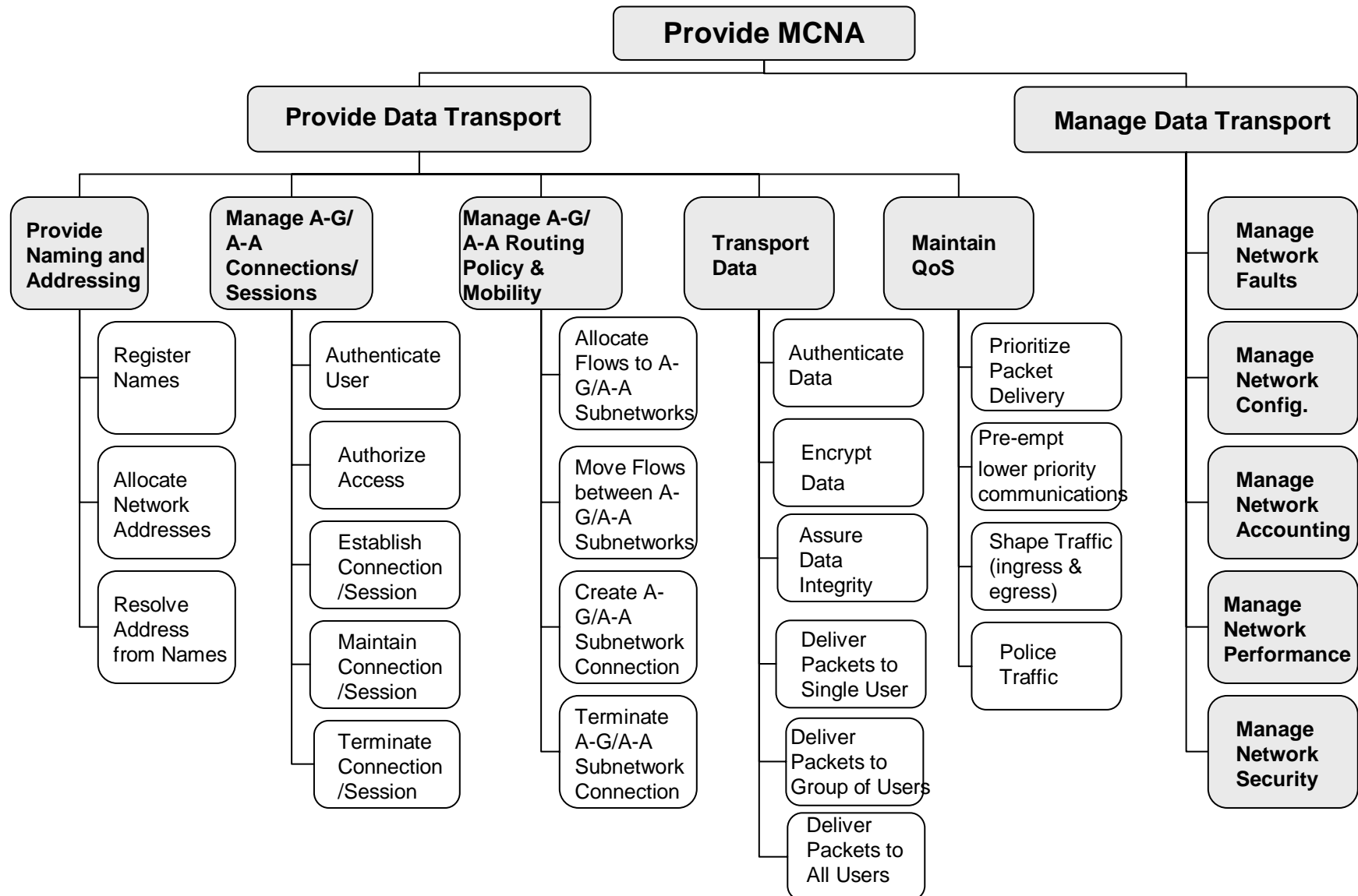


# MCNA Functional Architecture

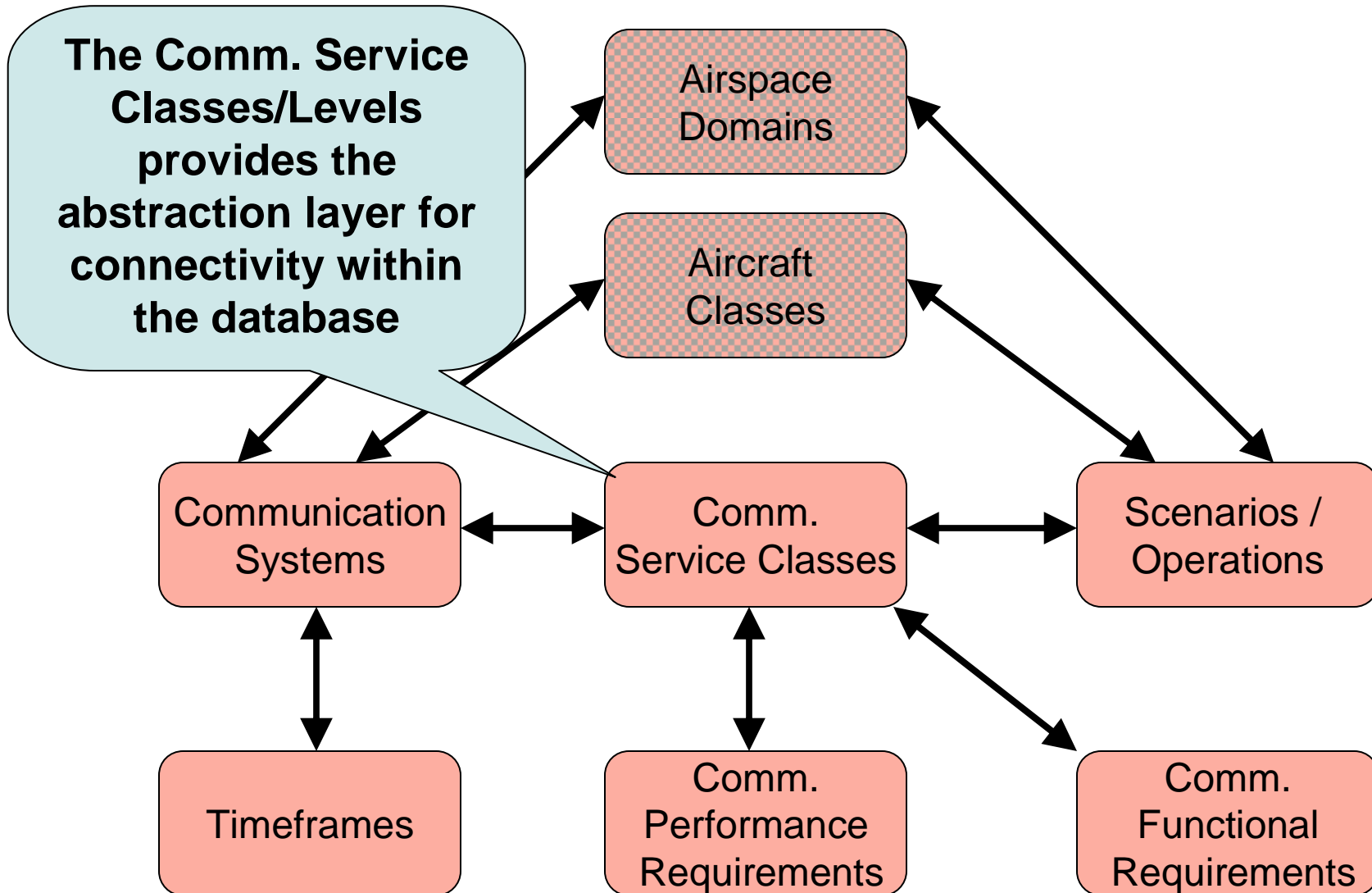


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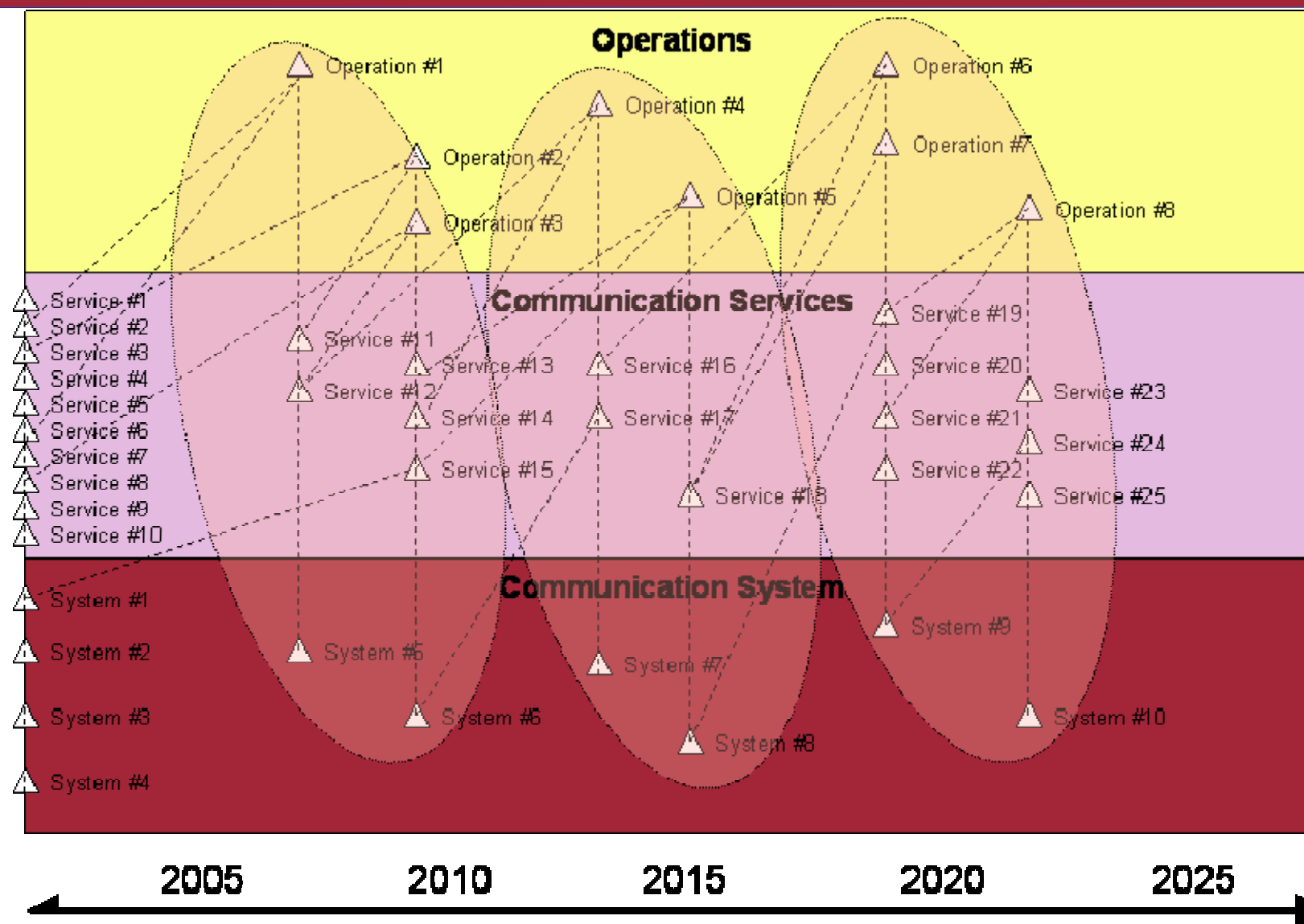




# Notional MCNA Transition Plan

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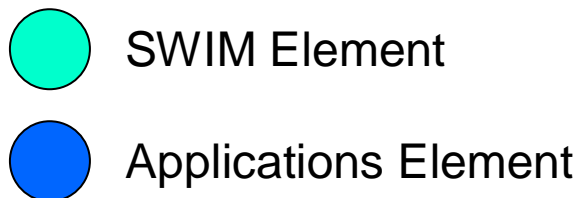
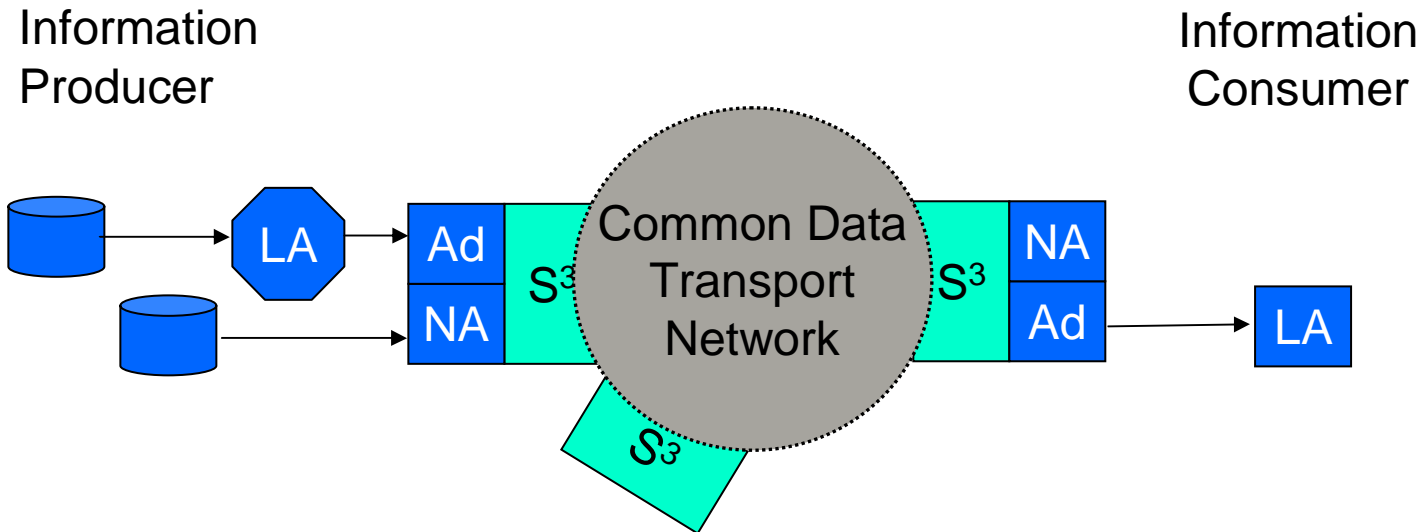
- **The initial rendering of this MCNA database will be most useful to demonstrate general trends.**
  - Fidelity of the inputs will be too low after the first cut to draw many specific conclusion
- **The true value of the database will be as a tool to support ongoing MCNA R&D**
  - Define which services are required by envisioned scenarios
  - Define which services will be supported by planned systems
  - Define what requirements new systems should support
  - Determine impacts of delays in system deployment schedules
  - Conduct cost/benefit optimization of deployment sequences
  - Determine “need by” dates of system and avionics deployments to meet anticipated operations deployment schedules
  - Evaluate the viability and timing of new operational concepts

# SWIM Node Reference Model



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S<sup>3</sup> – SWIM Shared Services

NA – Native Application

LA – Legacy Application

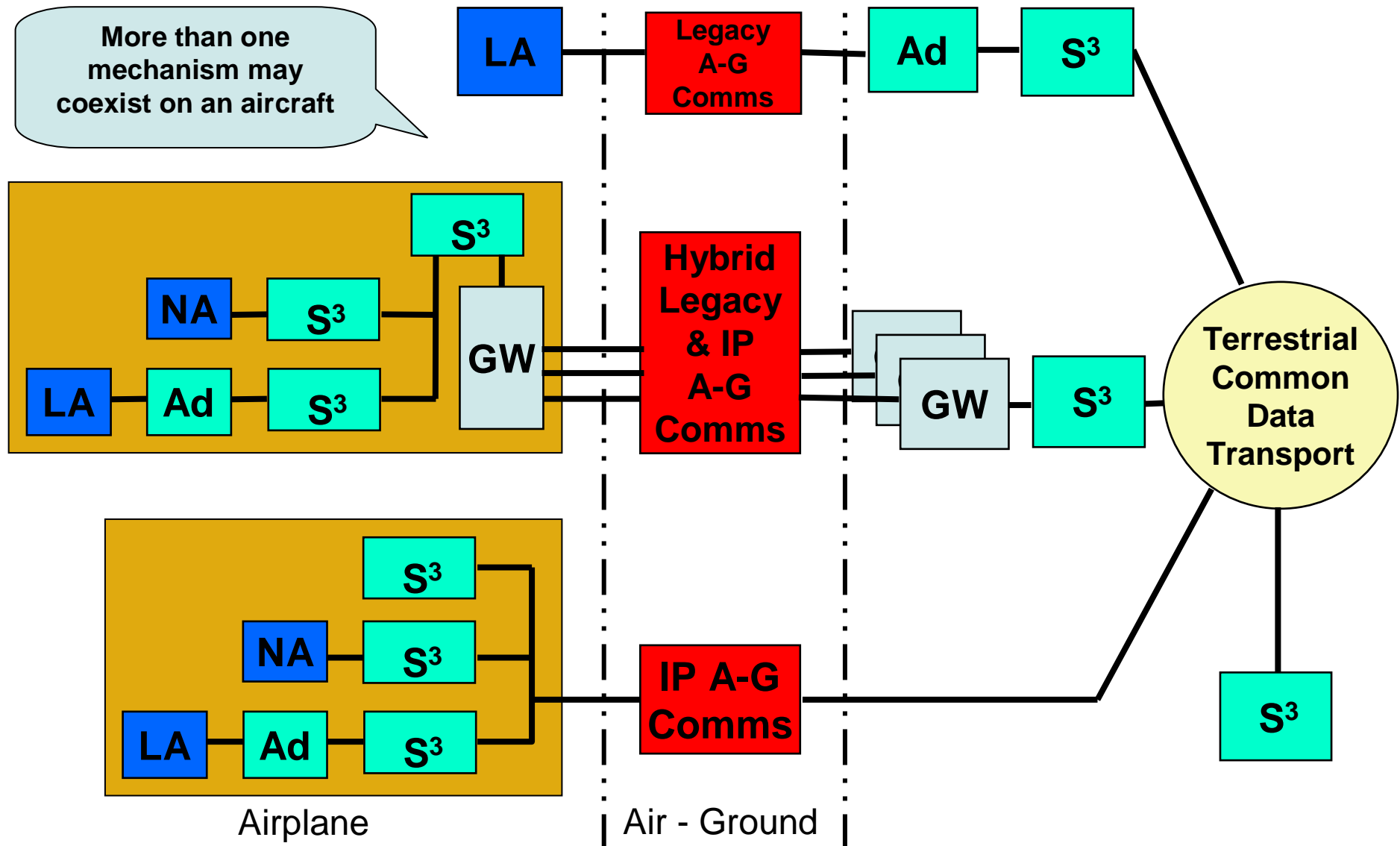
Ad – Adapter

# MCNA/SWIM Nodes – Implementation Options



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# MCNA Deliverables & Status



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CDRL	Name	Primary Focus	Approx. Pages	Initial	Final
A040	MCNA Architecture Report	Avaliant	100	3/10/2005	5/27/2005
A041	Technology Roadmap	ITT/ Honeywell	25	NA	6/10/2005
A042	Transition & Interoperability Plan	Avaliant	50	4/1/2005	6/10/2005
A043	Simulation, Emulation, and Demonstration Plan	ITT	50	3/10/2005	5/27/2005
A044	MCNA Investment Analysis	Boeing	30	10/29/2004 (Plan)	6/15/2005
A045	MCNA Final Report	Avaliant	25	6/30/2005	7/15/2005
A046	MCNA Requirement Report	Avaliant	75	12/15/2004	5/20/2005
A047	Certification Plan	Honeywell	40	NA	6/10/2005



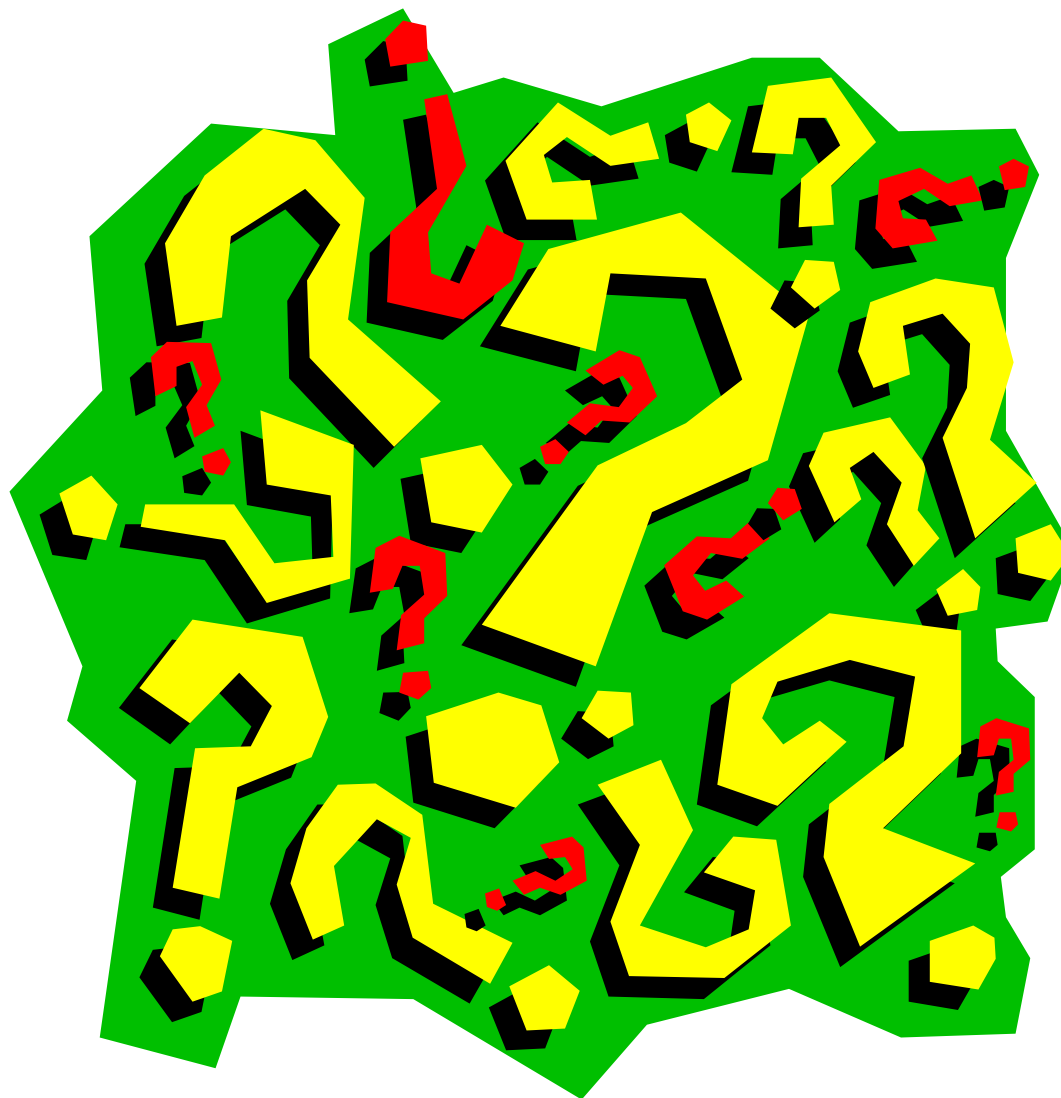
- **Mobile Communications Network Architecture (MCNA) views the aircraft as both an important consumer and producer of information**
- **A network-based communications architecture can enhance the benefits of SWIM and Network Centric Operations in the NAS**
- **The MCNA encompasses both existing air-ground communications as well future data communications links and systems**
- **Through co-funding from NASA GRC and the FAA, the Boeing-led team is developing the plan for future MCNA investments**

# Questions



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# Backup Slides

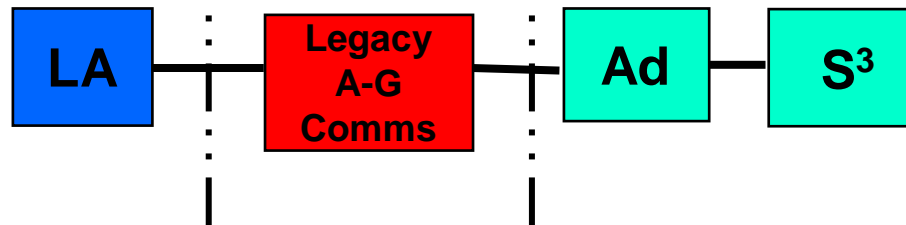


# MCNA/SWIM Nodes – Initial Transition



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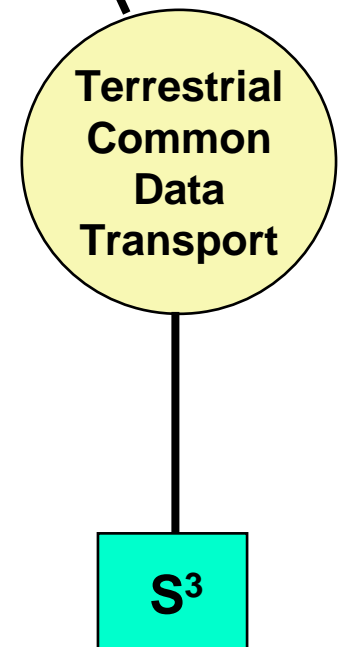


## Examples:

**Broadcast Services** – SWIM enabled ground application aggregates data and generates broadcast stream over legacy links such as UAT, 1090ES or VDL-B

**MDCRS** – Weather measurements and enhanced weather measurements are sent via ACARS to a SWIM enabled application that publishes the data into SWIM subscription by multiple users

**OOOI** – Aircraft state information is sent via ACARS to a SWIM enabled adapter that publishes the data into SWIM



Airplane

Air - Ground

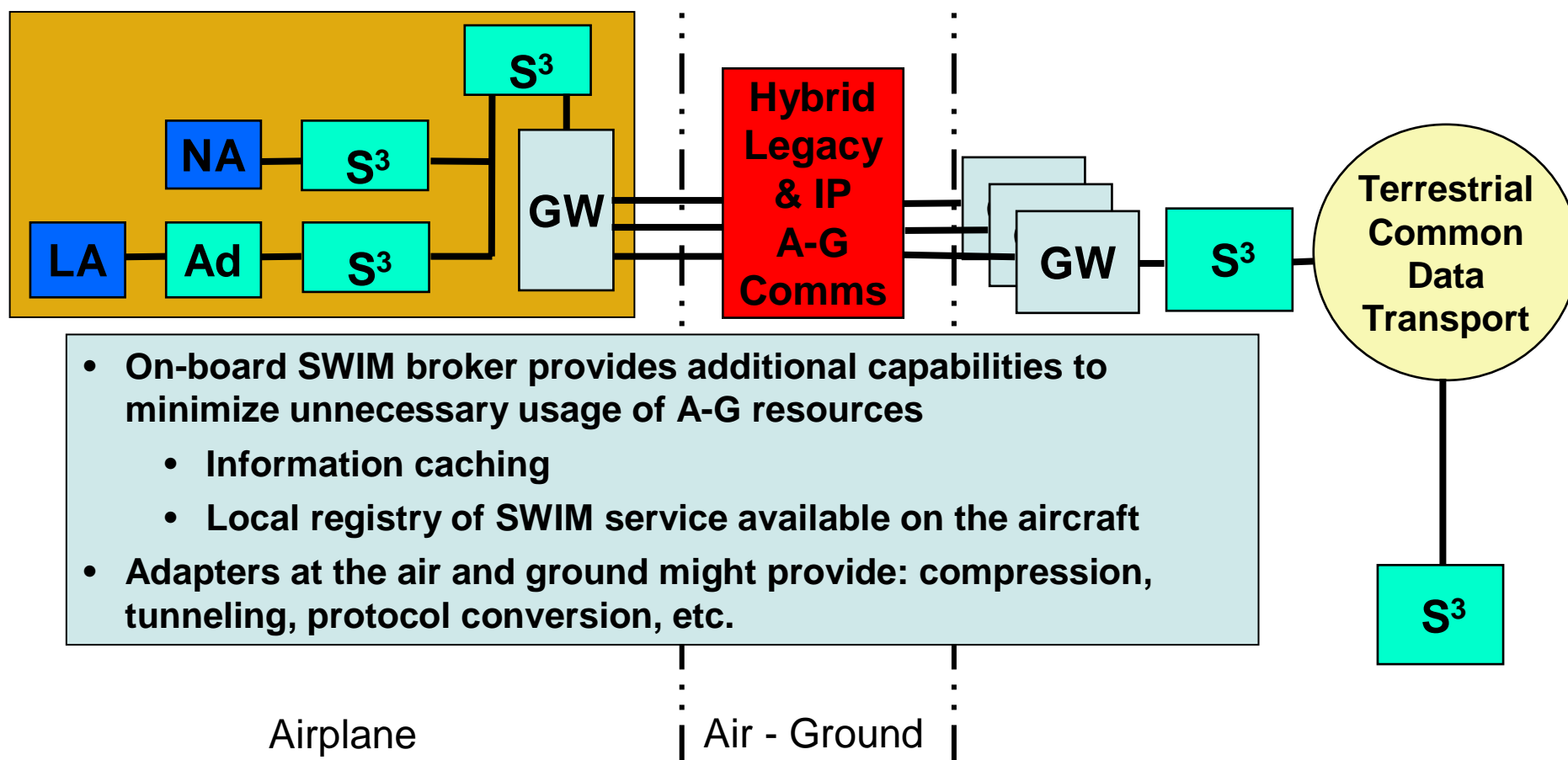


# MCNA/SWIM Nodes – Transition

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- IP, ATN or ACARS connection from terrestrial CDT to aircraft
- Legacy airplane apps require a SWIM enabled adapter
- New apps can be developed natively SWIM enabled



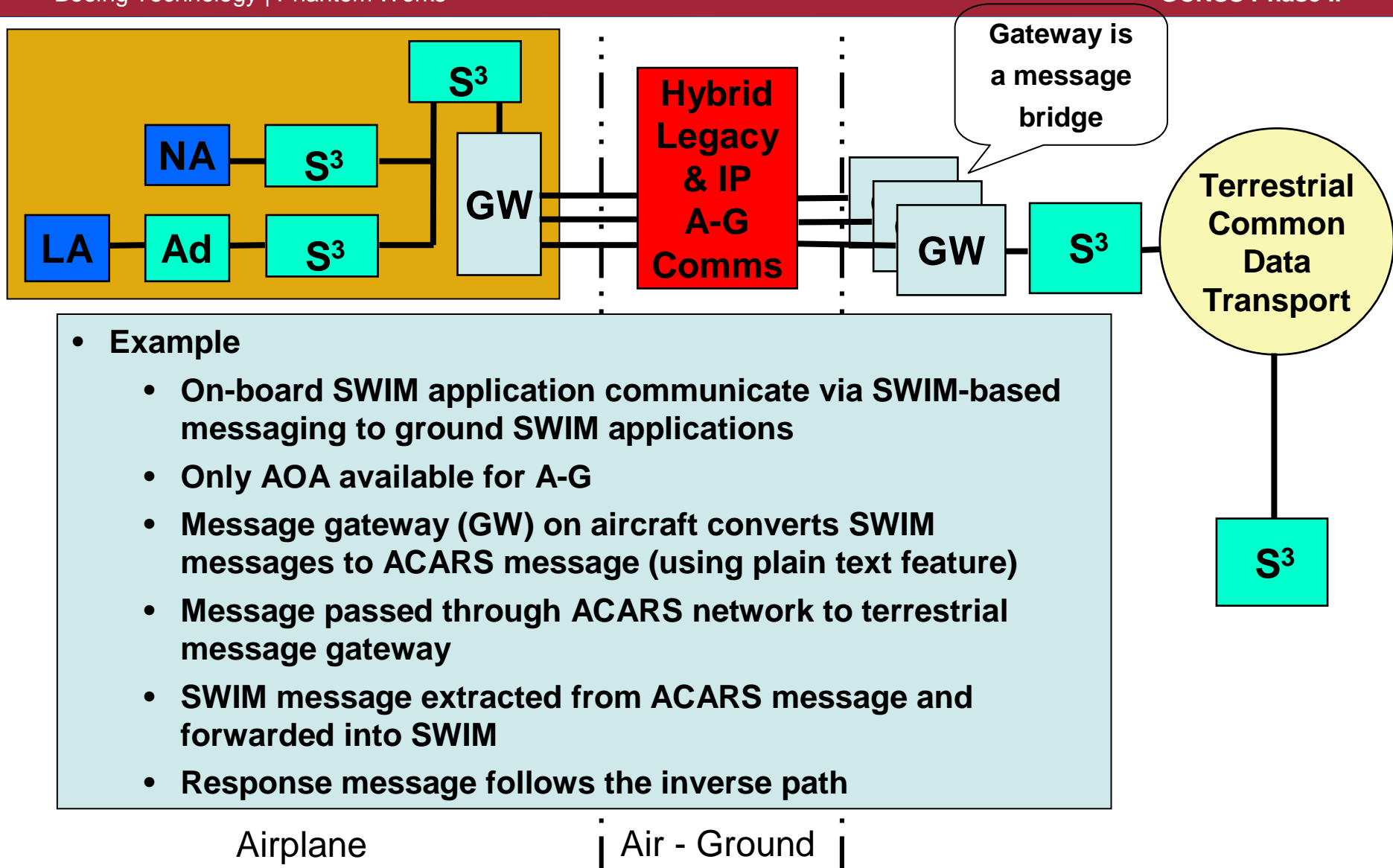
- On-board SWIM broker provides additional capabilities to minimize unnecessary usage of A-G resources
  - Information caching
  - Local registry of SWIM service available on the aircraft
- Adapters at the air and ground might provide: compression, tunneling, protocol conversion, etc.

# MCNA/SWIM Nodes – Transition (continued)



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# MCNA/SWIM Nodes – Vision State

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- IP connection from terrestrial CDT to aircraft
- IP A-G is an extension of CDT
- Legacy airplane apps require a SWIM enabled adapter
- New apps can be developed natively SWIM enabled
- On-board SWIM broker provides additional capabilities to minimize unnecessary usage of A-G resources
  - Information caching
  - Local registry of SWIM service available on the aircraft
  - Message router

